UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/26696
5 November 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 4 NOVEMBER 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of a crime committed by Kuwaitis during the afternoon of Tuesday, 2 November 1993 in the Umm Qasr area. One of the Kuwaitis opened fire on members of the Iraqi police force, wounding a lieutenant and killing a policeman.

At 1250 hours, Lieutenant Abd Al Abbas Abd Al Zahra, accompanied by Senior Corporal Adnan Abd Al Wahad and Corporal Salah Jaber Khoudir, acting in response to a report that two vehicles were heading towards Iraqi territory, stopped a Chevrolet car, registered in Kuwait and carrying four civilians wearing traditional Arab costume. The police asked the passengers to get out of the car so that their identities could be checked, but the passengers refused to obey. While Lieutenant Abd Al Abbas was giving the customary warnings, a second vehicle, belonging to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) stopped at the scene and two men - a member of UNIKOM and a Kuwaiti - got out. Following a discussion with the officer of the Iraqi police force, a third man, who was in the UNIKOM vehicle, opened fire on the Iraqi officer, wounding him in the right thumb and the left wrist. In addition, Senior Corporal Adnan Abd Al Wahad received two bullets in the chest and two more in the right foot, and subsequently died of his wounds at the Basra hospital on 3 November 1993. A number of Iraqi civilians then gathered near the site of the incident, while the two vehicles escaped. Shots were fired from the Kuwaiti vehicle at the Iraqi civilians in the Umm Qasr area.

This deliberate incident is clearly an act of provocation and aggression against Iraqi civilians. Furthermore, the presence in a UNIKOM vehicle of an armed civilian who opens fire and then uses the same vehicle to escape after his crime is a flagrant violation of the mandate of UNIKOM, which should receive your careful consideration.

In informing you of the details of this crime, the Government of the Republic of Iraq protests vehemently against this criminal act and requests you to take the measures necessary for the conduct of an impartial inquiry and the condemnation of the perpetrators of this crime, which left one Iraqi policeman dead and a police lieutenant seriously wounded.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Adnan MALIK
Charge d'affaires a.i.